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Barbara Fisher

Date: November 29, 2001

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THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re PCT International Application of)
GEUS, Eduard, Rudolf et al)
15 Int. Appl No.: PCT/EP00/04997)
Int. Filing Date: 30 May 2000)
20 PROPENE RECOVERY) 29 November 2001

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

25 Washington, DC 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.115

30 Applicant request entry of the following amendments prior to consideration of the claims pending in the application.

IN THE CLAIMS:

35 Amend claims: 2-7

2. (Amended) The process of claim 1, wherein the gaseous fraction obtained in the stripping section is supplied directly to the absorber section.

40 3. (Amended) The process of claim 1, wherein the higher boiling liquid fraction obtained in the absorber section is supplied to step (a).

4. (Amended) The process of claim 1, wherein the stripping section and the absorber section are combined in one distillation column.